

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SP-02 L-03 H-01 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 /025 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:RJSLOTT/EA/PHL:JELAKE:RF
APPROVED BY PM/SAS - DJJAMES
DOD/DSAA - LDELLARCO
EA/RA/PMU - JBROH-KAHN (INFO)
-----240125Z 012803 /65

R 232105Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA
INFO SECDEF
JCS
CINCPAC
CINCPACREPPHIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 118569

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MASS, RP

SUBJECT: INCREASED IMET FOR PHILIPPINE ARMED FORCES

REF: A) MANILA 5905 AND PREVIOUS B) STATE 270572
(031519Z NOV 76), C) STATE 041170

1. WE APPRECIATE EMBASSY AND JUSMAAG'S EXTENSIVE WORK TO
PREPARE A DETAILED REVIEW AND JUSTIFICATION FOR POSSIBLE
EXPANSION OF THE MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM (IMET) IN THE
PHILIPPINES. THIS EFFORT IS ESPECIALLY WELL-TIMED SINCE WE
ARE CONSIDERING INCLUDING TRAINING AS A SEPARATE COMPONENT
IN POSSIBLE FUTURE COMPENSATION PACKAGES WHICH MIGHT BE
OFFERED TO THE GOP IN BASE NEGOTIATIONS.

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2. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE (REFTEL B), WE HAVE PROGRAMMED
\$600,000 FOR IMET IN FY 77. WE WILL BE SYMPATHETIC TO
POSSIBLE SLIGHT INCREASES IN THIS PROGRAM; HOWEVER, THE
EXTENT OF ANY INCREASE WILL DEPEND ON THE FALLOUT FROM OTHER
COUNTRIES' IMET PROGRAMS DURING THE REMAINDER OF THIS FISCAL
YEAR.

3. REFTTEL C INFORMED EMBASSY THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HAS REQUESTED \$800,000 FOR IMET IN FY 78. THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES ARE MARKING UP THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION

AT THE PRESENT TIME. ANY EFFORT TO INCREASE THE FY 78 IMET PROGRAM WOULD REQUIRE A STATE/DEFENSE ATTEMPT TO AMEND THE BUDGET. HOWEVER, A BUDGET AMENDMENT IS NOT FEASIBLE IN VIEW OF (A) HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS RE PHILIPPINES, (B) ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO MINIMUM BUDGETARY EXPENDITURES AND (C) LATENESS IN CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW PROCESS OF PROPOSED PROGRAM SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS IN MARCH. WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER REPROGRAMMING SOME FALLOUT FUNDS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES FOR GOP IF AND WHEN AVAILABLE DURING FY 78. (FYI. IF GOP WERE WILLING TO PAY INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND LIVING ALLOWANCES (TLA) FOR ADDITIONAL TRAINEES WE WOULD BE ABLE TO STRETCH FUNDS FURTHER AND HAVE BETTER PROSPECTS FOR ACQUIRING FALLOUT FUNDS.)

4. WHEN FY 79 PROGRAM IS PREPARED THIS FALL, WE WILL REVIEW THE PROPOSALS FOR A GREATLY EXPANDED IMET PROGRAM IN THE PHILIPPINES.

5. WITH REGARD TO SPECIFIC COURSES LISTED REF A, WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT PRUDENT TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE IMET FUNDS FOR MILITARY POLICE OFFICER ADVANCED TRAINING AND CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION TRAINING IN VIEW OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS RE THE PHILIPPINES AT THIS TIME. WHILE RP MILITARY STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED IN SUCH COURSES
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THIS FY, THESE COURSES SHOULD BE DELETED RPT DELETED FROM THE FY 1978 PHILIPPINE IMET PROGRAM.

6. WE FULLY SUPPORT EMBASSY'S VIEW, CONVEYED IN PARA 2 REF A, THAT TO EXTENT POSSIBLE MILITARY TRAINEES IN CONUS SHOULD BE PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE AT FIRST HAND AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS IN ACTION SUCH AS LOCAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS AND EDUCATIONAL CENTERS IN ORDER TO GAIN UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION OF OUR WAY OF LIFE. SUCH WOULD BE IN ACCORD WITH OUR REPEATED CLAIMS TO THE CONGRESS THAT THE IMET PROGRAM, IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL MILITARY TRAINING, ALSO AFFORDS FOREIGN STUDENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE A BENEFICIAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE US AND ITS VALUES AND INSTITUTIONS. HOWEVER, WE WOULD NOT APPROVE USE OF IMET FUNDS FOR VISITS TO RECREATIONAL CENTERS SUCH AS DISNEYLAND.

7. THIS IS A JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY TRAINING, EDUCATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: RJSLOTT/EA/PHL:JELAKE:RF
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Executive Order: GS
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770184-0171
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770527/aaaaaxgd.tel
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Message ID: 22a7bf8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Subject: INCREASED IMET FOR PHILIPPINE ARMED FORCES
TAGS: MASS, RP
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